

Appln. No. 10/040,515

Attorney Docket No. 10541-759

III. Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2004, kindly enter the foregoing amendment and consider the following remarks. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.112, Applicant(s) request reconsideration of each and every ground of rejection set forth in the Office Action.

The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In this Amendment, claims 29 and 45-48 have been cancelled, claims 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 17 and 44 have been amended and new claim 49 has been added. Thus claims 1-28, 44 and 49 are pending and are at issue herein. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicants have submitted a replacement drawing sheet showing new Figures 3-4 with the Prior Art legend added, and therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this objection.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §102 and 103

Claims 1-7, 15-21 and 29-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ohtaki (U.S. Pat. No. 5,170,626). Claims 8-14, 22-28 and 46-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtaki.

To the extent that claims 29 and 45-48 have been cancelled, the rejection thereto is considered moot and will not be discussed here.

With regard to independent claim 1, the claim recites that the channel in the first end of member opens axially to the end surface and also opens radially to the outer peripheral surface of the first end. These features can clearly be seen in Figures 5 and 6. To the contrary, the Ohtaki reference does not disclose a channel which opens axially to the end surface and radially to the outer peripheral surface. Rather, the combination fitting of the Ohtaki reference includes orifices which only open to one

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surface of the fitting. Accordingly, all of the elements of independent claim 1 are not disclosed.

With regard to independent claim 15, the claim recites a combination fitting having a plurality of posts extending axially at the first end of the cylindrical chamber. The plurality of posts are circumferentially spaced to define a plurality of channels therebetween which form the fluid port at the first end of the cylindrical member. As was noted above with regard to independent claim 1, the Ohtaki reference simply discloses small orifices which open to a single point in the fitting. The Ohtaki reference does not disclose a plurality of posts extending axially at the first end of the cylindrical member.

With regard to independent claim 44, the claim recites a combination fitting having a pair of channels extending radially from the bore and defined on the first end of the member. Further, the pair of channels cross each other at a point on the bore axis. None of the orifices defined in the fitting of the Ohtaki reference cross each other.

For these reasons and all of the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of independent claims 1, 15 and 44, as well as their dependent claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the specification is in order and that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal contact would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Attorney of the Applicants at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants have calculated no fees to be presently due in connection with the filing of this Paper. However, Applicants have authorized charging of any fee deficiency to the deposit account of Applicants' assignee, Visteon Global Technologies, Inc., as indicated in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

4/28/04
Date

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Sheet of Drawings

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